

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:596  
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2011  
VACANT RAILWAY LAND  
Sainuji Shri Kowase Marotrao

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether large area of railway land across the country including Maharashtra is laying vacant and unused;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise;
- (c) whether the Railways propose to lease the said land to the people of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe;
- (d) whether the Railways have received any requests in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 596 BY SHRI MAROTRAO SAINUJI KOWASE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.02.2011 REGARDING VACANT RAILWAY LAND.

(a) & (b): Indian Railway has a total of about 10.65 lakh acres of land. Whereas about 90% of this land is directly under track, yards, workshops and allied supporting infrastructure, most of the remaining 10% land, measuring approx. 1.13 lakh acres, including that in the state of Maharashtra, is in the form of a thin strip along the track which Railway have been utilizing for its expansion for doubling, third line, quadrupling of track, gauge conversions, yard remodeling & traffic facility works, freight corridors as well servicing the track and other infrastructure. In addition, various other Railway related developmental works such as Rail Coach & Component Factories, Loco Component Factories, Wagon Factories, Coach Rehabilitation and Wagon Repair Workshops, Multi Model Logistic Parks, Auto hubs, cold storage and perishable cargo centres, etc are also undertaken/ planned on this vacant land, not immediately required for operational needs.

(c) to (e): Representations/requests from individuals, organisations etc. are received by Railways for leasing of railway land and these are examined in the light of extant policy guidelines. Presently railway land in urban areas and near level crossing gates is licensed to Railway employees working in Group 'C' and 'D' category with preference to employees belonging to SC/ST, OBC and the economically weaker section of the society under Grow More Food Scheme (GMF) to prevent encroachments.